(d) Sixth Central Pay Commission has recommended a number of incentives for scientists, which have been accepted and implemented by the Government. DRDO has made efforts to arrest the attrition through career enhancement by providing study leave for acquiring higher qualifications *viz.,* Ph.D., M. Tech., etc., sponsoring scientists for attending conferences/ seminars/ symposia/ short and long term training courses in frontier areas of research within the country and abroad, mentoring of young scientists, creating better working environment and social life in living campuses, etc.

Permanent commission to women officers

489. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has approved permanent commission to women officers in three services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what would be selection criteria and composition of the commission?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The Government has recently approved a proposal to grant Permanent Commission to women officers prospectively in select branches (Judge Advocate General (JAG) Department and Education Corps of the three Services, Accounts Branch in Air Force and Naval Constructor in Navy). The selection will be subject to fulfillment of the prescribed eligibility criteria.

Rejection of indigenously developed ALH by Indian Navy

490. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Navy has rejected the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) developed indigenously;

(b) if so, on what grounds; and

(c) the steps taken to bring it within limits of compatibility?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Indian Navy has not rejected the Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) developed indigenously by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). Eight ALH (Utility) helicopters have been inducted in the Navy so far. However, Anti Submarine Warfare (ASW) variant has not been inducted in service.

Additional troops to J & K border

†491. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to send additional troops of army to the bordering areas of Jammu and Kashmir to curb the increasing terrorist incidents; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The quantum of troops deployed in the State of Jammu and Kashmir is continuously assessed and reviewed by the Army based on the changing threat perception.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi